What Is Claimed Is:

1. A lubricating oil composition used in, or for use in, a compression ignited (diesel) internal combustion engine operated with diesel fuel having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, said lubricating oil composition comprising a major amount of oil of lubricating viscosity, and a minor amount of at least one metal-containing detergent, wherein said lubricating oil composition has a total ash content of less than 1.0 wt. %, based on the total weight of the lubricating oil composition.

2. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the total amount of ash contributed to said lubricating oil composition by said at least one metal-containing detergent is from 0 to less than 0.9 wt. %, based on the total weight of the lubricating oil composition.

3. A lubricating oil composition used in, or for use in, a spark ignited (gasoline) internal combustion engine operated with gasoline having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, said lubricating oil composition comprising a major amount of oil of lubricating viscosity, and a minor amount of at least one metal-containing detergent, wherein said lubricating oil composition has a total ash content of less than 0.7 wt. %, based on the total weight of the lubricating oil composition.

4. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 3, wherein the total amount of ash contributed to said lubricating oil composition by said at least one metal-containing detergent is from 0 to less than 0.6 wt. %, based on the total weight of the lubricating oil composition.

5. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 1 wherein said at least one metal-containing detergent comprises at least one salicylate detergent.

6. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 5 wherein said at least one metal-containing detergent consists essentially of at least one salicylate detergent.

7. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 3 wherein said at least one metal-containing detergent comprises at least one salicylate detergent.

8. The lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein said at least one metal-containing detergent consists essentially of at least one salicylate detergent.

9. A compression ignited (diesel) internal combustion engine operated with diesel fuel having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, and lubricated with a lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 1.

10. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 9, wherein said engine is a heavy duty diesel engine.

11. A spark ignited (gasoline) internal combustion engine operated with gasoline having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, and lubricated with a lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 3.

12. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 9, wherein said engine is equipped with a particulate trap.

13. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said engine is equipped with a particulate trap.

14. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 9, wherein said engine is equipped with an exhaust gas recirculation system.

15. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 11, wherein said engine is equipped with an exhaust gas recirculation system.

16. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 14, wherein exhaust gases and/or combustion air is cooled prior to introduction into the engine combustion chamber.

17. The internal combustion engine as claimed in claim 15, wherein exhaust gases and/or combustion air is cooled prior to introduction into the engine combustion chamber.

18. A method of operating a compression ignited (diesel) internal combustion engine, which method comprises operating said engine with a fuel having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, and lubricating said engine with a lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 1.

19. A method of operating a spark ignited (gasoline) internal combustion engine, which method comprises operating said engine with a fuel having a sulphur content of less than 50 ppm, and lubricating said engine with a lubricating oil composition as claimed in claim 3.